United Nations

Press Release

Office of Public Information
Press Section
United Nations, New York

TL2557

Thirty-fifth General Assembly
57th Plenary Meeting
PM SUMMARY

GA/6315
11 November 1980

ASSEMBLY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON BELIZE, FOREIGN ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND OTHER DECOLONIZATION MATTERS

Holds Eight More Ballots for Security Council Seat

The General Assembly this afternoon declared that Belize should become an independent State before the conclusion of the thirty-sixth session (1981) of the General Assembly and called on the United Kingdom, as the administering Power, to convene a constitutional conference to prepare for the independence of the Territory.

By adopting its resolution on Belize by a recorded vote of 139 in favour to none against, with 7 abstentions (Bolivia, El Salvador, Honduras, Israel, Morocco, Paraguay, Uruguay) (see Annex 1), the Assembly also urged the United Kingdom, acting in consultation with the Governments of Belize and Guatemala, to continue efforts to reach agreement without prejudice to the exercise by the people of Belize of their rights and in furtherance of peace and stability in the region. It called on the United Kingdom to ensure the security and territorial integrity of Belize.

That resolution and others were adopted on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee (Decolonization). In all, the Assembly adopted 12 resolutions, four decisions and four consensuses on various decolonization questions.

Also this afternoon, the Assembly held eight further inconclusive ballots for the remaining non-permanent seat on the Security Council to be filled by a Latin American State.

Also this afternoon, the Assembly held a second vote on the resolution adopted at the morning meeting on the question of Western Sahara. That action was taken because the morning vote, which Algeria had requested be recorded, was not recorded due to a breakdown in the voting machine. However, following some objections during the afternoon meeting by delegations about the legality of voting again on a resolution previously adopted, Algeria withdrew its request that the vote be a recorded one and the Assembly thus accepted the

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ASSEMBLY PLENARY -- TAKE 9

Next, the Assembly considered the report of the Fourth Committee (Decolonization) entitled "Question of East Timor" (document A/35/598).

The draft resolution on East Timor was adopted by a recorded vote of 58 in favour as to 35 against, with 46 abstentions. (For details, see Annex III).

SUMARYO SURYOKUSUMO (Indonesia), explaining his vote after the vote, said that he "categorically" opposed the resolution contained in the report. It served no purpose nor reflected the realities of East Timor. East Timor had been freely and democratically integrated into Indonesia and that was an established fact, which was not reversible.

East Timor was no longer a colonial Territory since the people had decided themselves to be integrated with Indonesia, he continued. He rejected the attempts to impose colonial status to the province. The resolution constituted interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign State against the Charter of the United Nations.

The Assembly then turned to the report of the Fourth Committee on Activities of foreign economic and other interests impeding implementation of the Declaration on decolonization (document A/35/599).

It then considered the draft resolution on activities of foreign economic and other interests impeding implementation of the Assembly's 1960 Declaration on decolonization.

D.E.N. RODRIGO (Sri Lanka), in explanation of vote before the vote, said his delegation would vote in favour of the resolution. He opposed foreign interests subordinating the interests of colonial peoples. He was against the draft singling out certain States which maintained foreign interests in colonial Territories.

EARL A. CARR (Jamaica) said his delegation had consistently opposed the role played by foreign economic interests. The basic demands in the draft resolution were strongly supported by Jamaica.

The draft resolution was adopted by a recorded vote of 103 in favour to 15 against, with 28 abstentions. (For details, see Annex IV).

(END OF TAKE 9)

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ASSEMBLY PLENARY -- ANNEX III

Vote on Resolution on Question of East Timor

The Assembly adopted, by a recorded vote of 58 in favour to 35 against, with 46 abstentions, the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee on the question of East Timor (document A/35/598). The vote in the Assembly was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Byelorussia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, USSR, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Kampuchea, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Maldives, New Zealand, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United States, Uruguay, Yemen.

Abstaining: Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Burma, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Romania, Samoa, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Absent: Bulgaria, Comoros, Djibouti, Dominica, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mexico, Paraguay, Saint Vincent, Solomon Islands.

(annex IV follows)